



IOMEGA[®] TAPE250[™] SUBSYSTEM

General
Reference Guide

Iomega TAPE250™ Subsystems

General Reference Guide



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FCC Information (Applies to External, U.S. Models Only)



The computer equipment described in this reference (and in the Installation Guide that accompanies this reference) generates and uses radio frequency (RF) energy. If the equipment is not installed and operated in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, interference to radio and television reception may result.

Interference

This equipment complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules and its operation is subject to the following conditions: (1) the equipment may not cause harmful interference, and (2) the equipment must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation. 

Part 15, Class B, of the FCC Rules is designed to provide reasonable protection against radio and television interference in a residential installation. Although the equipment has been tested and found to comply with allowed RF emission limits, as specified in the above cited rules, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular situation. Interference can be determined by turning the equipment on and off while monitoring radio or television reception. The user may be able to eliminate any interference observed by implementing one or more of the following measures.

- Reorient the affected device and/or its receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the affected device and the computer equipment.
- Plug the computer and its peripherals into a different electrical circuit from that used by the affected device.

 **WARNING** *Only the manufacturer's shielded host interface cable is allowed for use with an external subsystem. Other types of cables will void the manufacturer's warranty and violate FCC rules and regulations. Also, changes or modifications to the electronics or enclosure of this product must be expressly approved by Iomega; otherwise, the user's authority to operate the equipment may be voided by the FCC.* 

Canadian DOC Information

The digital apparatus referenced in this manual does not exceed the Class B limits for radio noise emissions from digital devices as set out in the Radio Interference Regulations of the Canadian Department of Communications.

German ZZF Information








Iomega certifies that the equipment referenced in this manual is in compliance with the requirements of BMPT Vfg 243/1991 RFI suppression. The normal operation of some equipment (such as signal generators) may be subject to specific restrictions. Please observe the notices in this reference guide.

The marketing and sale of the equipment was reported to the Central Office for Telecommunication Permits (ZZF). The ZZF has the right to retest this equipment to verify compliance with the regulation.

This Manual

This manual describes information that is applicable to all Iomega TAPE250 subsystems, including hardware and software products. If your system is installed and running correctly, this manual can be put away and used for future reference.

The following symbols are used in the text of this manual to identify notes, cautions, warnings, and references to related information.

	Topic of Note	
	CAUTION	
	WARNING	
	Refer to	



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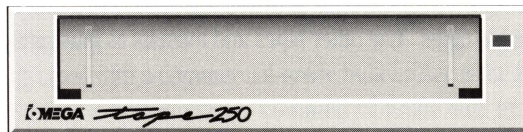


The Iomega TAPE250 Family

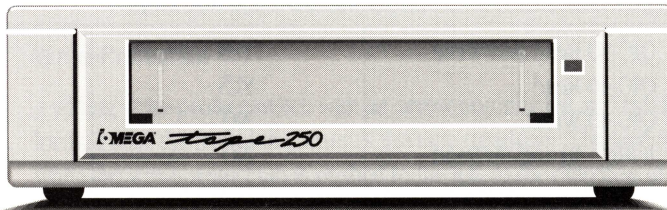
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The Iomega TAPE250 Family

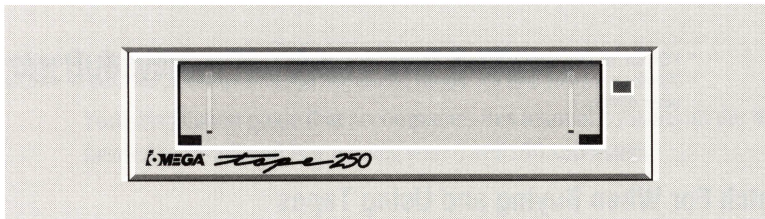
This chapter describes the general application of Iomega TAPE250 subsystems, technical specifications, and various subsystem options.



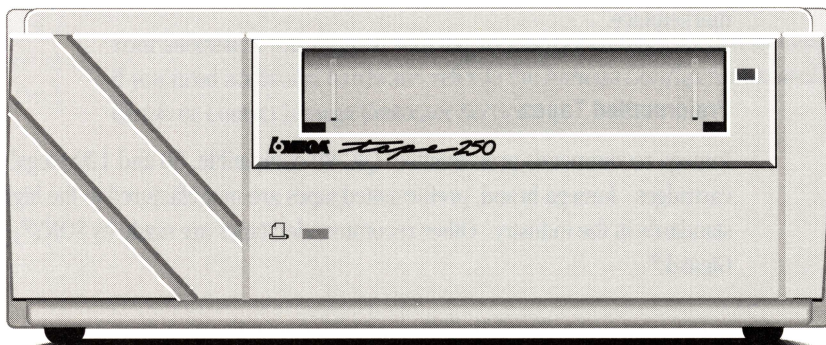
Insider Subsystem



PC Powered Subsystem



Insider Half-Height Subsystem



Parallel Port Tape Subsystem

Iomega TAPE250 subsystems let you enjoy the flexibility and security of removable data storage with a wide variety of system attachments to fit your individual needs. PC Powered subsystems connect to most IBM AT and compatible computer systems; Insider drives mount in a vacant drive bay; and Parallel Port Tape subsystems provide maximum flexibility with a pass-through printer connection as well.

Tape Compatibility

The Iomega TAPE250 series of drives will read, write, and format standard QIC-80 compatible tapes. Use other tapes and formats as illustrated and described in this section.

TAPE250 Operation	Using Central Point for Iomega . . .	
	. . . for DOS 3.3 and Higher	. . . for Windows 3.x
QIC-80 Read and Write	YES	YES*
QIC-40 Read	YES	YES*
QIC-40 Write	NO	NO
Irwin® 40 and 80 Read	NO	YES*
Irwin 40 and 80 Write	NO	NO

TAPE250 Tape and Format Operations

* YES, for all TAPE250 subsystems *except* the Parallel Port Tape. (At present, the *Central Point Backup for Windows* software does not support parallel port tape drive operation, but it can be used for backups with other devices.)

Things to Watch For When Buying and Using Tapes

You can find both unformatted and preformatted QIC-80 tape cartridges in the tape marketplace.

Preformatted Tapes

Iomega recommends preformatted, QIC-80 compatible, 80 and 120 megabyte tape cartridges. Iomega brand, preformatted tapes are manufactured to the highest quality standards in the industry. Other recommended tapes are made by SONY®, 3M®, and Gigatek®.

Unformatted Tapes


If you choose to use unformatted, DC2000 series tape cartridges, they must be formatted by your TAPE250 drive. Formatting takes one or two hours and is selected through your software format options.

Reformatting Tapes

Old tapes and tapes that are generating too many errors should be bulk erased and reformatted using your software format options.



Bulk Erasing

Erasing tapes with a commercial-grade bulk eraser is the best way to ensure that your tape is ready for reformatting. Commercial-grade bulk erasers are available at many hobby stores and computer dealers. 

Write-Protection

A sliding write-protect switch with an arrow pointing left and marked RECORD is located near the front-left corner of the tape cartridge. The tape is ready for recording when the write-protect tab is pushed to the left, in the direction of the arrow. The tape media is write-protected when the tab is pushed to the right.

Installing the Subsystem Hardware and Software

Your installation guide that accompanies this manual contains all the information needed to install and begin using your TAPE250 subsystem.

Compatibility and Accessory Hardware

Your subsystem was shipped with the accessory hardware needed by most computers. If you need additional hardware, refer to the *Iomega Configuration and Accessory Guide* or contact Iomega Customer Service.

TAPE250 Technical Information

TAPE250 drives are QIC-80 standard compliant and will work with most QIC-80 compliant tape software or controllers. The following sections describe other technical information about the drive and tape.

Drive and Tape Environmental Specifications

Iomega Tape 250 subsystems operate most reliably when environmental factors are held within the limits shown in the following table. Special care should be taken to prevent condensation forming in or on the drive or tape(s). If condensation is present, do not operate the drive or use the tape(s) until all condensation has evaporated.

	Operation	Storage	Shipping
Temperature			
TAPE250 Drive	10° to 45°C (50° to 113° F)	-22° to 52°C (-8° to 126° F)	-40° to 60° C (-40° to 140° F)
Subsystem	10° to 32°C (50° to 90° F)	-22° to 52°C (-8° to 126° F)	-40° to 60° C (-40° to 140° F)
Tape Cartridge	10° to 45°C (50° to 113° F)	-22° to 51°C (-8° to 124° F)	-40° to 51° C (-40° to 124° F)
Relative Humidity (noncondensing)	10 to 80%	10 to 90%	10 to 90%
MaximumWet Bulb Temperature	26.6°C (80°F)	29.4°C (88°F)	29.4°C (88°F)
Vibration (in three perpendicular planes)	5 to 17 Hz 0.85 Gs 17 to 500 Hz 0.25 Gs 60 to 500 Hz 5.0 Gs	5 to 27 Hz 1.3 Gs 27 to 60 Hz 2.0 Gs 60 to 500 Hz 5.0 Gs	5 to 27 Hz 1.3 Gs 27 to 60 Hz 2.0 Gs
Shock (half sine in three perpendicular planes)	10 Gs for 11 msec	40 Gs for 11 msec	60 Gs for 11 msec

TAPE250 Drive Size and Weight Specifications

Height	25.4 mm (1.00 in.)
Width	101.6 mm (4.00 in.)
Depth	139.7 mm (5.50 in.)
Weight	0.45 kg (1 lb)

TAPE250 Drive Power Requirements

Measurement Point	At the power connector supplying the hardware.
Operational	
5vdc \pm 5% (amps typical)	0.3
12vdc \pm 5% (amps typical)	0.6
Surge	
5vdc \pm 5% (amps maximum)	0.3
12vdc \pm 5% (amps maximum)	1.4
Total	
Watts Standby	2.5
Watts Typical	9.0
Watts Maximum	19.0

TAPE250 Parallel Port Tape Power Requirements

Operational	
Line Voltage (vac auto ranging)	100-240
Line Frequency (Hz)	50-60
Power (average watts)	30

TAPE250 Drive Performance Specifications

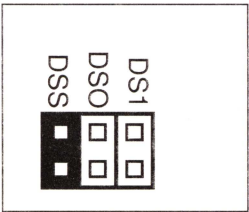
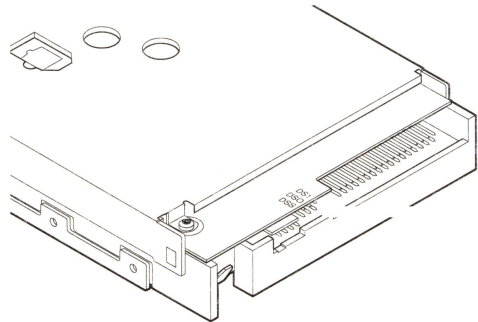
Standards	TAPE250 Drive
Interchange	QIC-40 read and QIC-80 read/write/format
Mini-cartridge Compatibility (QIC-80 Tapes)	
DC2080 and DC2120	
Data Handling	
Formatted Capacity (tape sizes shown above)	80MB to 120MB
Formatted Capacity with data compression	from 120MB up to 250MB
Data Transfer Rate	500Kbps and 1Mbps
Tracks	28
Format	Serpentine
Interface	IBM Floppy Compatible
Drive Timing	
Read/write at 500Kbps	34 ips
Read/write at 1Mbps	68 ips
Seek Minimum	68 ips
Locate Minimum	68 ips
Drive Reliability	
Mean Time Before Failure	30,000 hours
Service Life	5 years
Data Bit Transfer Hard Errors(at interface)	1 Error in 10 ¹⁴ bits

TAPE250 Drive Select Options

The factory setting, illustrated below, will work in most computer configurations (including those using the PC10p tape controller).

△ **Parallel Port Tape Drive Select**

DSS is the only drive select setting for the TAPE250 Parallel Port Tape subsystem; do not change. △



TAPE250 Drive Factory Jumper Setting

Optional Settings

Using Your System Floppy Controller

If you are using your system floppy controller, refer to the following chart for the correct drive select setting. The DSS setting causes the drive to operate in stealth mode. Stealth mode allows you to connect your TAPE250 drive with as many as two other floppy drives present in the computer system.

Number of Floppy Drives	TAPE250 Drive Select Setting	Notes
0	DSS	Stealth mode.
1	DSS	Stealth mode.
2	DSS	Stealth mode.
3	DS0	DS0 works in most cases; if you have problems, use DS1 or the PC10p tape controller. (DS0 or DS1 will work provided you have no more than one floppy drive connected to the same interface cable with your TAPE250 drive.
4	DSS	Must use the PC10p tape controller.

Drive Select Optional Settings

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TAPE250 Interface Products

Iomega interface products provide the data connections between your TAPE250 subsystem and your computer. This chapter describes these products and various data connection options.

The Parallel Port Interface

TAPE250 Parallel Port Tape subsystems include a built-in parallel port interface that connects to your computer system using a standard printer cable. No other interface product is needed for the TAPE250 Parallel Port Tape subsystem.

Printer Data Cables

Standard quality printer cables are up to 15 feet long and are made with shielded cable and molded connectors. The Parallel Port Tape subsystem works with most printer cables. If problems occur, check the quality and length of your cable.

The Floppy Interface

TAPE250 PC Powered and Insider tape subsystems use either your system floppy controller or an Iomega tape controller.

System Floppy Controllers

Your TAPE250 subsystem operates with a floppy controller that has a 500 Kilobit per second (Kbps) or 1 Megabit per second (Mbps) data transmission rate. Check your computer system documentation for information about the speed of your system floppy controller.

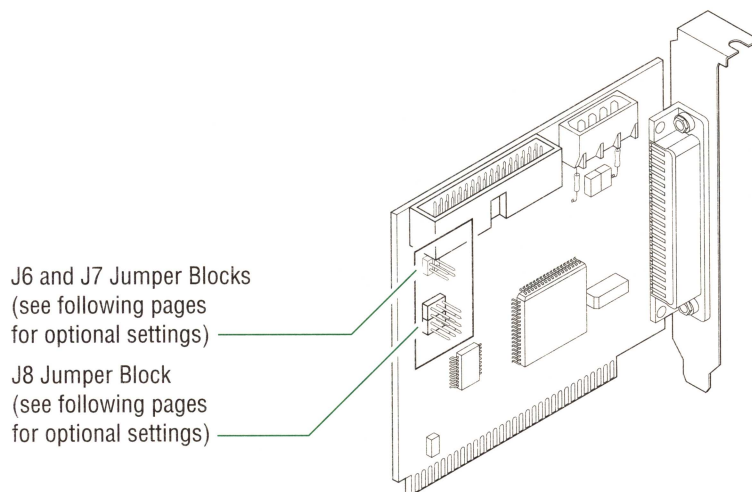
Iomega PC10p Tape Controller

The Iomega PC10p, 1Mbps tape controller can double the data transfer rate of the TAPE250 Insider and PC Powered tape drives. It is designed to coexist with or replace your existing floppy controller. Your computer needs an open expansion slot for the PC10p controller. Refer to the *Iomega Configuration and Accessory Guide* for more information.

Why Change the Factory Settings?

- If another Iomega host adapter or tape controller (other than your system floppy controller) is present in your computer system.
- If you want to use the PC10p to control your floppy drive(s).
- If the factory settings of the PC10p conflict with other system resources. Possible conflicts include I/O addresses, direct memory access (DMA) channels, and interrupt channels.

On your PC10p tape controller, locate the jumper blocks illustrated next and use the information following the illustration to change the factory jumper settings.



PC10p, 1Mbps Tape Controller

PC10p Optional Settings

Install the PC10p controller according to the instructions shipped with the controller and your subsystem installation guide. Jumper settings are set at the factory to work in the widest variety of computer configurations. In those cases where changes in the settings are necessary, use the following information to make the right choices among the optional settings. If the board is installed, electrical power must be turned OFF before any changes are made to the factory settings.

PC10p Optional I/O Port Addresses at Jumper Blocks J6 and J7

If another device in the system is using the same I/O port address as your controller, change the controller address to another setting as illustrated next. (Address 3F0H is reserved for your system floppy controller.)



I/O Port Address Optional Settings

PC10p Hardware Interrupts at Jumper Block J8

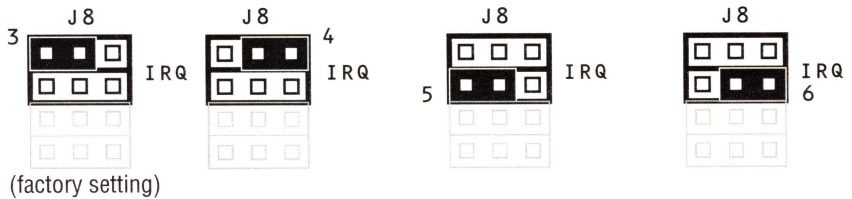
The following table shows the normal hardware interrupts for IBM AT and compatible computers. Factory and optional settings for your Iomega tape controller follow this table. If other devices are using the same interrupt line as the PC10p, you can change to an unused setting. Refer to your operating system documentation if you need information about your system interrupt configuration.

NAME	DESCRIPTION	NAME	DESCRIPTION
<i>(the following are AT only)</i>			
NMI	Parity*	IRQ8	Real-Time Clock
0	Timer*	IRQ9	Re-Directed To IRQ 2
1	Keyboard*	IRQ10	Unassigned
IRQ2	Reserved (XT); Interrupt 8-15 (AT)	IRQ11	Unassigned
IRQ3	COM or SDLC Iomega PC10p Factory Setting	IRQ12	Unassigned
IRQ4	COM or SDLC Iomega PC10p Optional Setting	IRQ13	80287 Co-Processor
IRQ5	Hard Disk (XT); LPT (AT) Unassigned Iomega PC10p Optional Setting	IRQ14	Hard Disk
IRQ6	Floppy Disk Iomega PC10p Optional Setting	IRQ15	Unassigned
IRQ7	LPT		

* These interrupts exist on the system board and are not available on the Bus Connector.

Hardware Interrupts

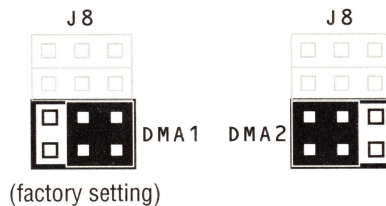
Use any IRQ setting illustrated next for the PC10p. (Do not use any other setting not illustrated.)



Optional IRQ Settings for the PC10p

PC10p Optional Direct Memory Access Channels at Jumper Block J8

Use DMA channel two if conflicts occur with the factory setting of channel one.



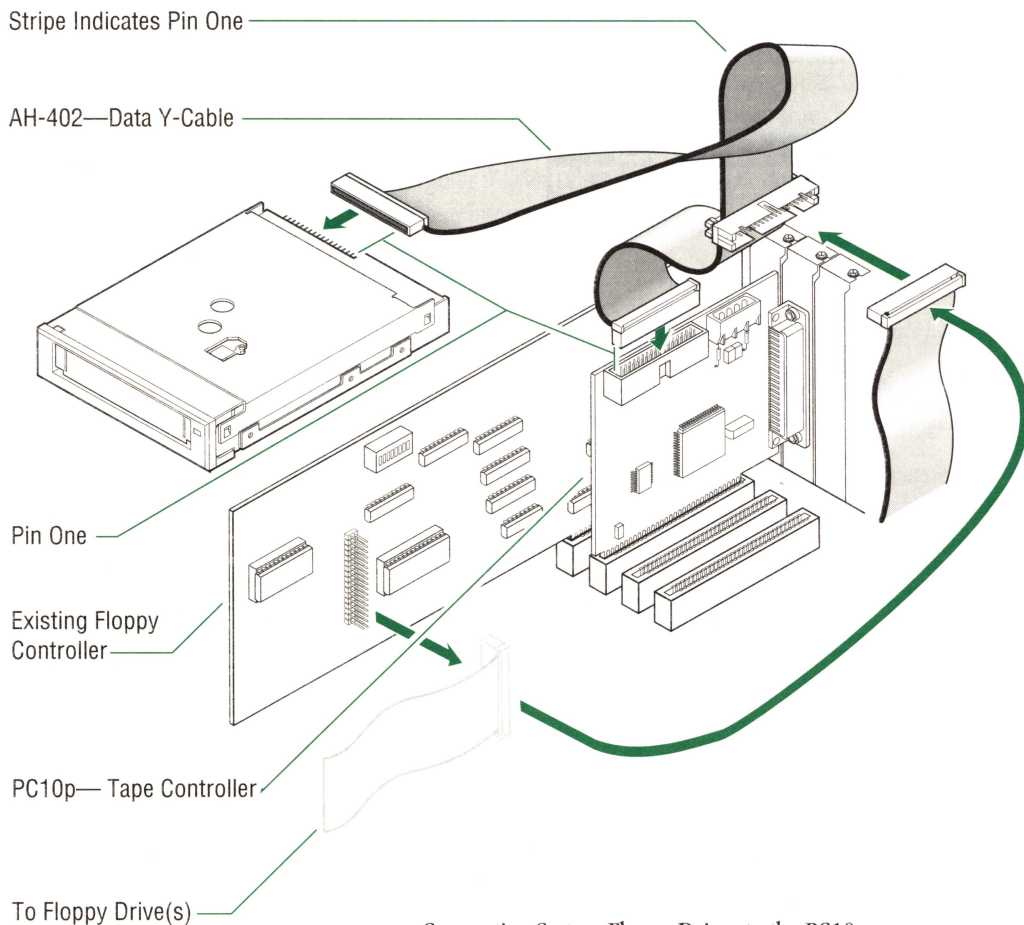
Direct Memory Optional Settings

After restoring power, reboot or restart the system and refer to your tape software manual for information about configuration. (You must configure your tape software to run with the PC10p settings.)

Connecting Your System Floppy Drives to the PC10p

Most systems can use the PC10p to run one or two system floppy drives. If your floppy drives support a 1Mbps data transfer rate, performance will double using the PC10p. Using an Iomega Data Y-cable, configure your system floppy drive cable as described and illustrated next.

- You must disable your existing floppy controller. (Consult your computer system documentation for instructions about disabling your system floppy controller and make a note of all original settings.) Move your floppy controller cable from your existing floppy controller to the PC10p as illustrated next.
- You must set your PC10p tape controller to I/O address 3F0H, IRQ six, and DMA channel two. (Optional jumper settings for the PC10p are described and illustrated on the preceding pages.)

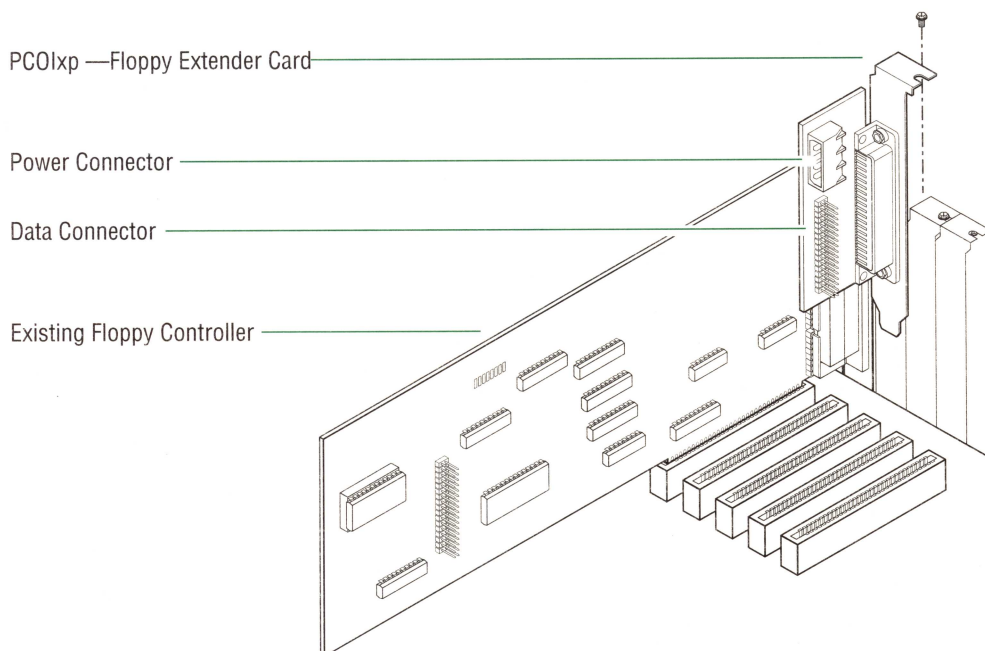


Connecting System Floppy Drives to the PC10p

If problems occur, return your computer system and your PC10p tape controller to their original settings.

PC01xp Floppy Extender

The PC01xp is an extender card designed to extend system data and power connections to your TAPE250 PC Powered subsystem. Refer to your *Iomega Configuration and Accessory Guide* for information about ordering the PC01xp floppy extender. A *sample* configuration is illustrated next.



PC01xp Sample Setup

Iomega Interface Cables

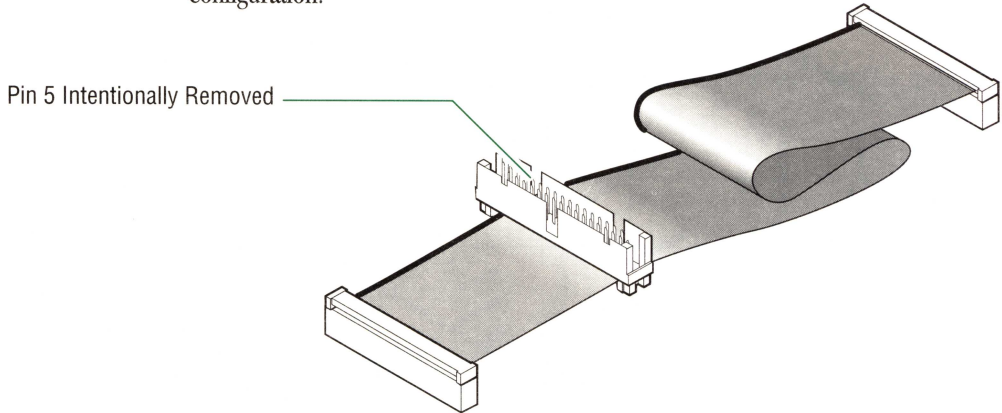
Iomega cable assemblies meet the highest standards of quality and design. Components used in the assembly are approved by the regulatory agencies of the countries in which they are sold. Exterior host cables and connectors are shielded and tested to meet or exceed the highest EMI emission standards.

Floppy Data Cables

Iomega data cables provide connection to a variety of computer systems and configurations. (Refer to the *Iomega Configuration and Accessory Guide* for ordering information.)

AH-402 Data Y-Cable

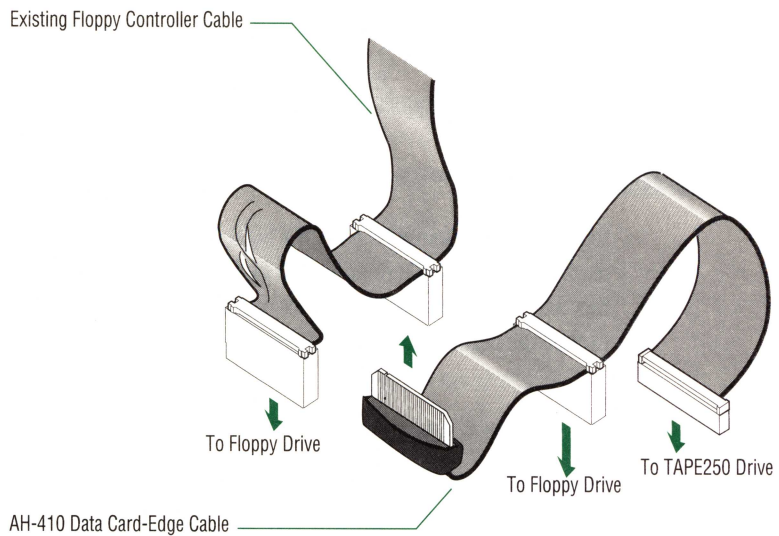
The AH-402 (included with TAPE250 Insider drives) is a 34-pin data cable that extends your existing data cable. The following illustration shows the cable and the preceding illustration captioned “Connecting System Floppy Drives” shows a *sample* configuration.



AH-402 Data Y-Cable

AH-410 Data Card-Edge Cable

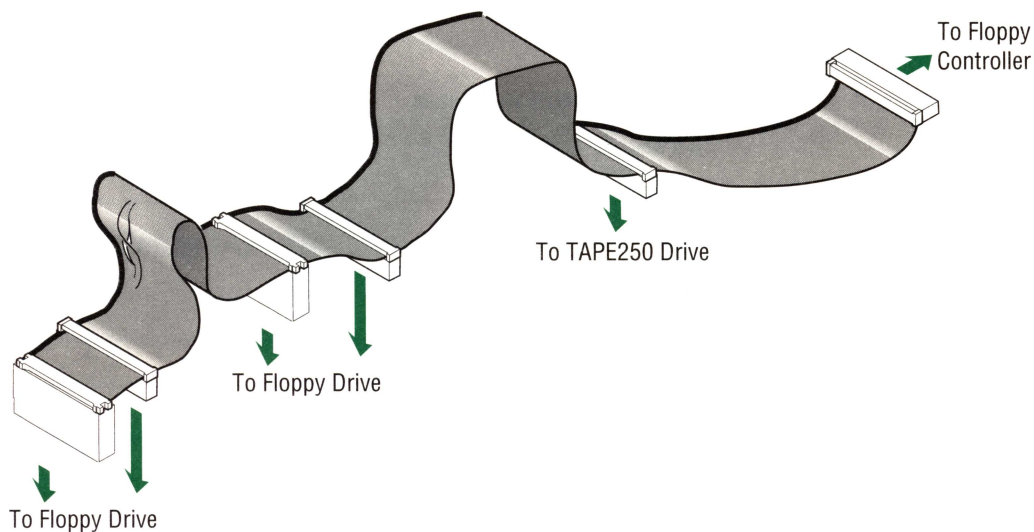
The AH-410 is a special order, 34-pin and card-edge data cable designed for systems with only card-edge connectors. A *sample* configuration is shown next.



AH-410 Data Card-Edge Cable

AH-411 Data In-Line Cable

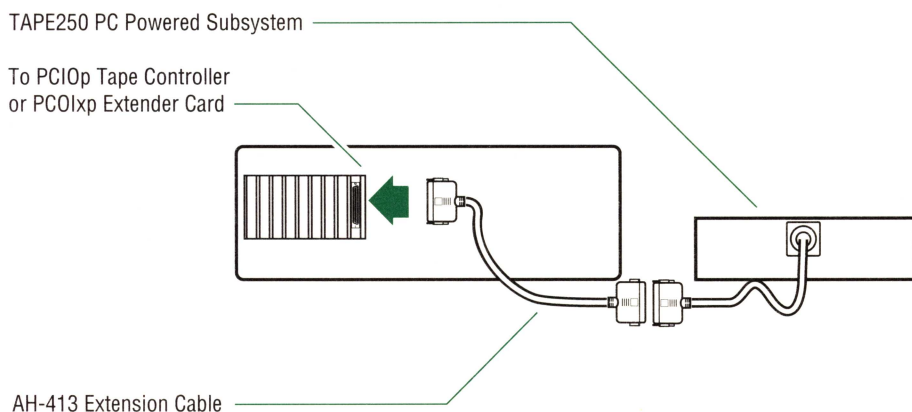
The AH-411 is a special order, 34-pin *and* card-edge data cable designed to replace an existing card-edge-only floppy data cable. A *sample* configuration is shown next.



AH-411 Data In-Line Cable

AH-413 Extension Cable for the TAPE250 PC Powered Subsystem

The AH-413 is a special order, extension cable for TAPE250 PC Powered subsystems that allows easy, desktop connection for shared backups. The next illustration shows a *sample* configuration.



AH-413 Extension Cable



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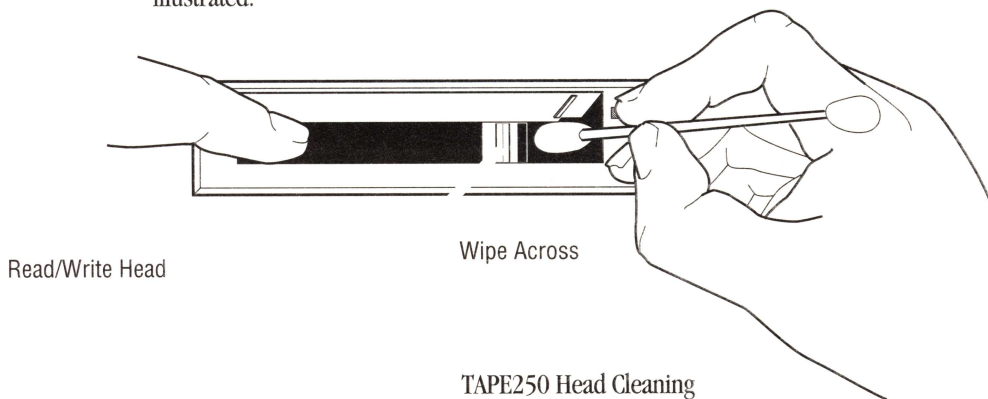
What About ...

... Maintaining TAPE250 Subsystems?

Your TAPE250 subsystem is virtually maintenance-free. You can keep it operating at peak efficiency by following some simple procedures.

Cleaning the Read/Write Head

After every eight hours of operation (approximately 20 backups and/or restores), clean the read/write head of the drive with a cotton swab saturated with common isopropyl alcohol. Push open the tape access door, locate the head, and wipe across the head as illustrated.



Cleaning the Subsystem

Clean the subsystem case as frequently as necessary to prevent dust buildup. Use a damp cloth or paper towel. Do not use spray cleaners.

⚠ **CAUTION** *No other maintenance procedure is authorized by Iomega. Any attempt to service the drive in any other way will void the warranty.* ⚠

... Solving Problems?

Hardware problem solutions for your TAPE250 subsystem are usually simple. Use the suggestions in this section to troubleshoot hardware problems and identify the solution. Software problem solutions are described in the software manual that was shipped with your Iomega TAPE250 product.

⚠ **CAUTION** Electrical power should be turned off before connecting or disconnecting any cables; otherwise, computer equipment could be damaged. ⚠

Things to Check First

The following steps will eliminate most hardware problems.

1. Review the setup and installation steps. Check power and data cable connections.
2. Visually check your Iomega product(s) for obvious equipment damage. Contact your authorized Iomega dealer if any damage is found.
3. Review and retry the operational steps in the installation guide.
4. If the problem seems to be related to tape formatting or other possible software problems, check the software manual that accompanied your Iomega product for solutions.

Check the following sections for specific problem solutions.

Hardware Problem Solutions

Check the following items for tips about solving hardware problems.

Power and Data Cables

Verify connections. Look for stripes, keys, or markings on the cables or connectors that show correct positioning. Make sure that connections are straight and secure.

For Parallel Port Tape subsystems, the printer cable must be shielded and no longer than 15 feet.

Power

Make sure the power switch is on.

- If your Iomega product is an Insider drive, make sure your computer power supply has minimum capacity of 130 Watts.
- If your Iomega product is a PC Powered subsystem, turn off your computer system electrical power and check all power connections.

Tape Controller or Floppy Extender Card

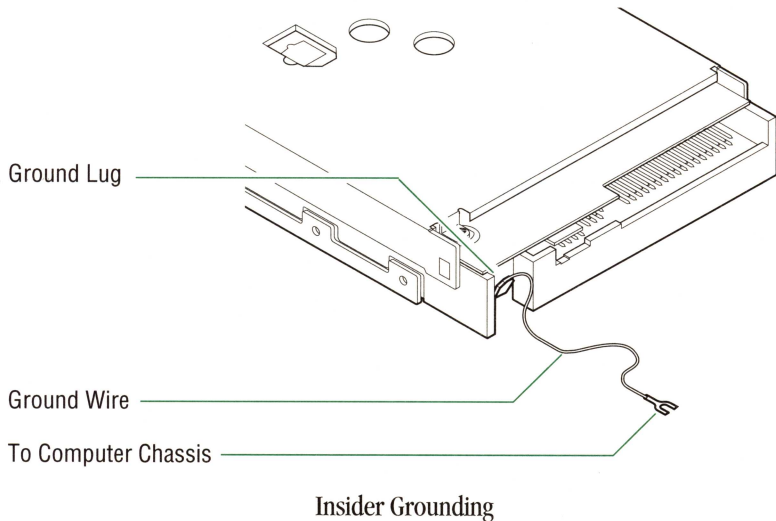
Make sure that the controller or extender card is installed correctly and securely.

Read / Write Head

Always clean the read/write head if you experience problems reading or writing data. Follow the simple procedure illustrated at the beginning of this chapter.

Insider Grounding

Insider drives are usually grounded through the metal-to-metal drive mounts. If your drive has plastic rails or has no metal-to-metal contact with the drive bay, connect a spare ground wire to the ground connector as illustrated next. (Extra ground wires are included in most computers and one is included with the HH subsystem.)



⚠ **CAUTION** *Make sure the Insider drive is grounded; otherwise, equipment damage may result.* ⚠

Tape Insertion and Removal

Make sure that you are using a DC2080 or DC2120 tape cartridge and do not force it into or out of the drive. When the power fails while a tape cartridge is inserted, remove it from the drive.

⚠ **CAUTION** *Leaving a tape cartridge in the drive for extended periods can cause a deformed roller and leave an impression on the tape.* ⚠

Bad Tape Cartridge

If a tape cartridge will not format properly, it may be worn out or defective. Try using a new cartridge or a cartridge that has been operating correctly.

Configuration Problem Solutions

Check the following items for tips about solving configuration problems.

Tape Controller

If you installed a PC10p tape controller, recheck the settings on the controller and eliminate any conflicts with other devices. Some non-Iomega controllers can be used with Iomega products. For compatibility assistance, contact Iomega Customer Service. ❶

System Configuration

For system configuration solutions, refer to the software manual for your TAPE250 product.

Tape Format

Check the format solutions in the software manual for your TAPE250 product. If the drive cannot format the tape, it may need to be bulk-erased. (Bulk-erasing is described in Chapter 1.)

❶ Refer to: Chapter 3 - What About ... Contacting Iomega?

Direct Memory Access (DMA) and Interrupt Request (IRQ) Settings

Expansion or host adapter boards in the system may be competing for the same DMA channels or IRQ lines.

More Solutions

If your Iomega product still will not operate correctly, contact Iomega Customer Service as described on the following pages.

... Contacting Iomega?

You may contact the Iomega Customer Service and Technical Support staff in the USA Monday through Thursday from 7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. and Friday from 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (Mountain time). The Iomega Technical Support staff in Europe is available Monday through Friday from 08:00 to 18:00 (Central European time). When calling Iomega, be ready to identify your computer, its operating system, and your Iomega product. Customer Service and Technical Support telephone numbers follow the Iomega addresses shown below.

Iomega Corporate Office

Iomega Corporation
1821 West Iomega Way
Roy, Utah 84067
USA

European Headquarters

Iomega GmbH
Boetzingers Strasse 48
7800 Freiburg im Breisgau
Germany

Iomega Telephone Numbers

If you wish to contact Iomega Customer Service or Technical Support, refer to the appropriate section listed next.

Customers Located In North America and Europe (Toll Free)

USA	United States	(800) 456-5522
A	Austria	0660-8911
B	Belgium	078-112117
CDN	Canada	(800) 456-5522
DK	Denmark	8001-0889
SF	Finland	9800-14930
F	France	05-904057
D	Germany	0130-824544
GB	Great Britain	0800-898563
I	Italy	1678-78360
NL	Netherlands	06-0222967
N	Norway	050-11125
E	Spain	900-994910
S	Sweden	020-795512
CH	Switzerland-D	155-4297
CH	Switzerland-F	155-4296

Customers Located Elsewhere in Europe, the Middle East, and Africa

If you are calling from other areas of Europe or if the toll free numbers listed above are not accessible, you may use one of the following numbers.

Iomega (Freiburg, Germany)	49 (0) 761-45040
FAX	49 (0) 761-4504414

Customers Located In Other Areas

Customers calling from areas not listed in the previous sections, or any customer wishing to contact Iomega via regular telephone line, FAX, or EBBS (Electronic Bulletin Board Service) should use the following USA numbers.

Worldwide Iomega number	(801) 778-3000
FAX	(801) 778-3460 (24 hours)
Iomega EBBS (8,N,1)	(801) 778-4400 (24 hours)
CompuServe®	DOS Users: Go PCVENE
	MAC Users: Go MACCVEN
Internet	info@iomega.com
AppleLink®	Iomega.TS
America Online	Keyword Iomega

... Iomega Warranty Information?

This TAPE250 product and any Iomega TAPE250 tape cartridge(s) have a two year limited warranty beginning from date of purchase. For more complete warranty information, refer to the Warranty Information packet shipped with this product. If you did not receive a Warranty Information packet, call Iomega Customer Service.

Benefits of Returning the Warranty Registration

Return of the warranty registration card, though not required, will provide you with these valuable benefits.

- Your name will be registered with Iomega should your product require service.
- Your name and address will enable Iomega to send you product updates and new product information.
- Your input will help us to provide better products.

Take a moment to fill out the warranty registration card and return it in the self-addressed envelope provided.

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